GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1612
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2016
Collaboration with UK
Venugopal Shri K. C.

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase the efficiency and productivity of clean energy in the country;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard till date;

(c) whether the Government has made any collaboration with the United Kingdom for setting up of a Joint Virtual Clean Energy Centre to tackle the challenges in the field of solar energy and the launch of a new Research Track on Smart Energy Grids; and

(d) if so, the details of the agreements and its proposed outcome in the field of clean energy to the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government is implementing Clean Energy Research Initiative to further R&D activities in solar energy, energy efficiency, energy conservation, smart energy grids and energy storage etc to increase the efficiency and productivity of clean energy in country. So far, 167 national research projects have been supported at a cost of Rs 257 crores, which have resulted in training of 160 research professionals and setting up of 6 advanced industrial scale research facilities and test beds.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Department of Science and Technology has collaborated with Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) of United Kingdom (UK) for setting up of United Kingdom - India Virtual Joint Clean Energy Centre on Energy Storage and Smart Grids with a matching contribution of Â£ 5 million. The centre aims at research and development on systems for harnessing solar energy integrated with energy storage and networks for off/on grid scenarios.

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